


Amendments to the Claims

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1. (currently amended) A connecting element for releasably connecting a first part with a second part, comprising:
 - a) a housing which is rigidly attached to the first part;
 - b) an engaging element attached to the second part;
 - c) a slide with a receiving element complementary shaped to the engaging element for the releasable connection of the engaging element with the receiving element, the slide being slidable inside the housing from a first position ~~into~~ to a second position for latching together the engaging element and the receiving element;
 - d) at least one latch for fixing the slide in the second position; and
 - e) at least one release member extending outwardly of the housing for manually acting onto the at least one ~~latching means~~ latch to release the slide from the second position for unlatching the releasable connection between the engaging element and the receiving element in order to separate the two parts from each other.
 2. (previously presented) A connecting element according to claim 1, wherein the at least one latch includes two snapping hooks and the at least one release member includes at least one release lever.
 3. (previously presented) A connecting element according to claim 2, wherein the at least one release lever is provided as two extensions of the two snapping hooks extending over the edge of the housing.
 4. (previously presented) A connecting element according to claim 1, wherein the slide slides along a bushing extending through the housing.
 5. (currently amended) A connecting element for releasably connecting of a first part with a second part, comprising:

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- a) a housing which is rigidly attached to the first part;
 - b) an engaging element attached to the second part;
 - c) a slide with a receiving element complementary shaped to the engaging element for releasable connection of the engaging element with the receiving element, the slide being slidable inside the housing from a first position to a second position for latching together the engaging element and the receiving element;
 - d) at least one latch for fixing the slide in the second position;
 - e) at least one release member extending outwardly of the housing for manually acting onto the at least one ~~latching means~~ latch to release the slide from the second position for unlatching the releasable connection between the engaging element and the receiving element in order to separate the two parts from each other; and
- wherein the the slide slides along a bushing extending through the housing; and additional recesses for the snapping hooks are provided inside the bushing to preliminary fix the slide for facilitating the connecting of the engaging element with the receiving element in the first position.

6. (currently amended) A connecting element for releasably connecting of a first part with a second part, comprising:

- a) a housing which is rigidly attached to the first part;
- b) an engaging element attached to the second part;
- c) a slide with a receiving element complementary shaped to the engaging element for releasable connection of the engaging element with the receiving element, the slide being slidable inside the housing from a first position to a second position for latching together the engaging element and the receiving element;
- d) at least one latch for fixing the slide in the second position;
- e) at least one release member extending outwardly of the housing for manually acting onto the at least one ~~latching means~~ latch to release the slide from the second position for unlatching the releasable connection

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between the engaging element and the receiving element in order to separate the two parts from each other; and wherein the the slide slides along a bushing extending through the housing; and the bushing is ~~spaced from one or more slits for the release member~~ covered by a cover on the side opposite to the engaging element and the cover has one or more openings for the at least one release member.

7. (Cancelled)
8. (previously presented) A connecting element according to claim 1, wherein a damping element for damping the transmission of vibrations between the two parts is provided inside the housing.
9. (previously presented) A connecting element according to claim 8, wherein the damping element is arranged between a bushing and the housing.
10. (previously presented) A connecting element according to claim 9, wherein the bushing comprises lateral projections or edges coacting for its fixing with recesses of the damping element.
11. (previously presented) A connecting element according to claim 6, wherein on the outer side of the cover a holding and/or support surface is arranged for facilitating the connecting of the two parts.
12. (new) A connecting element for releasably connecting a first part with a second part, comprising:
 - a) a housing;
 - b) an engaging element;
 - c) a slide with a receiving element complementary shaped to the engaging element for releasable connection of the engaging element with the receiving element, the slide being slidable inside the housing from a first



position to a second position for latching together the engaging element and the receiving element;

- d) at least one latch for fixing the slide in the second position; and
- e) at least one release member extending outwardly of the housing for manually acting onto the at least one latch to release the slide from the second position for unlatching the releasable connection between the engaging element and the receiving element in order to separate the engaging element and housing.

- 13. (new) A connecting element according to claim 12, wherein the at least one latch includes two snapping hooks and the at least one release member includes at least one release lever.
- 14. (new) A connecting element according to claim 13, wherein the at least one release lever is provided as two extensions of the two snapping hooks extending over the edge of the housing.
- 15. (new) A connecting element according to claim 12, wherein the slide slides along a bushing extending through the housing.
- 16. (new) A connecting element for releasably connecting a first part with a second part, comprising:
 - a) a housing;
 - b) an engaging element;
 - c) a slide with a receiving element complementary shaped to the engaging element for releasable connection of the engaging element with the receiving element, the slide being slidable inside the housing from a first position to a second position for latching together the engaging element and the receiving element;
 - d) at least one latch for fixing the slide in the second position;
 - e) at least one release member extending outwardly of the housing for manually acting onto the at least one latch to release the slide from the

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second position for unlatching the releasable connection between the engaging element and the receiving element in order to separate the engaging element and housing; and
wherein the slide slides along a bushing extending through the housing; and additional recesses for the snapping hooks are provided inside the bushing to preliminary fix the slide for facilitating the connecting of the engaging element with the receiving element in the first position.

17. (new) A connecting element for releasably connecting a first part with a second part, comprising:
- a) a housing;
 - b) an engaging element;
 - c) a slide with a receiving element complementary shaped to the engaging element for releasable connection of the engaging element with the receiving element, the slide being slidable inside the housing from a first position to a second position for latching together the engaging element and the receiving element;
 - d) at least one latch for fixing the slide in the second position;
 - e) at least one release member extending outwardly of the housing for manually acting onto the at least one latch to release the slide from the second position for unlatching the releasable connection between the engaging element and the receiving element in order to separate the engaging element and housing; and
wherein the slide slides along a bushing extending through the housing; and the bushing is covered by a cover on the side opposite to the engaging element and the cover has one or more openings for the at least one release member.
18. (new) A connecting element according to claim 12, wherein a damping element for damping the transmission of vibrations is provided inside the housing.

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and
19. (new) A connecting element according to claim 18, wherein the damping element is arranged between a bushing and the housing.
20. (new) A connecting element according to claim 19, wherein the bushing comprises lateral projections or edges coacting for its fixing with recesses of the damping element.
21. (new) A connecting element according to claim 17, wherein on the outer side of the cover a holding and/or support surface is arranged for facilitating the connecting of the engaging element and housing.
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